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AUTHOR	Brown, Lisa A.; And Others
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ABSTRACT

This guide provides school law practitioners and school leaders needed information on "how" to prevent, respond to, analyze and, defend a student-to-student harassment claim. It includes a discussion of the law, a section on policy development, practical advice on conducting an investigation, tips for training, and an analysis of the Office for Civil Rights' Guidelines. The emphasis throughout is teaching young people that treating each other with respect is the right thing to do. Six chapters focus on the following topics: (1) legal issues surrounding student-to-student sexual harassment; (2) guidelines from the Office for Civil Rights; (3) developing a board policy and administrative regulations on student-to-student harassment; (4) investigating complaints of sexual harassment (a primer for investigators); and (6) preparing for an Office for Civil Rights investigation of alleged peer sexual harassment. (Appendices contain reprints of agency documents, sample policies, checklists, sample training manuals, notices, a resource list, and sample pamphlets on sexual harassment for secondary school students.) (RJM)

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